

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

To: Cara Morgan
Branch Chief, Local Assistance and Market Development

From: Mitch Delmage
Recycling Market Development Zone Redesignation Coordinator

Request Date: November 14, 2016

Decision Subject: Approve the Expansion Application for the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Chico/Northern Butte RMDZ

Action By: December 20, 2016

Summary of Request:

As outlined in Public Resources Code Section 42011, Recycling Market Development Zones (RMDZs) are approved for a term of 10 years. During this term, the Zone Administrator (ZA) or other delegated persons may apply to CalRecycle to expand the boundaries of a Zone. One RMDZ has submitted an application to expand their boundaries for another 10-year term. In order for this Zone and its businesses to take full advantage of all RMDZ services, including low interest loans, CalRecycle is being requested to consider and approve this expansion application.

This Zone encompasses the majority of Butte County and the cities and towns residing within it. This minor expansion would cover a rural area that would include a business, which currently contributes to recycling organic waste materials into a viable product. The expansion would make this business eligible for low interest loans that could be used to increase the amount of organic waste (including food wastes) processed as feedstock for an anaerobic digester. This would also help jurisdictions in the surrounding area to comply with the provisions of the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (AB 1826) law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Chico/Northern Butte Market Development Zone be found to have submitted a complete Expansion Application and have met all statutory and regulatory requirements to expand their Zone, and recommends that CalRecycle find that its Projects will not have any adverse environmental effects that are subject to mitigation or avoidance under the jurisdiction of the Department. The approval would be conditioned upon the receipt of all of the resolutions and/or other documentation within 60-90 days, if necessary.

Branch Chief Action:

On the basis of the information and analysis in this Request for Approval and the findings set out above, I hereby approve the Expansion of the Chico/Northern Butte RMDZ.

Dated: _____

Cara Morgan, Branch Chief
Local Assistance and Market Development

Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:

The Recycling Market Development Zone program combines recycling with economic development to fuel new businesses, expand existing ones, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills. The program provides attractive loans, technical assistance, and free product marketing through RecycleStore to businesses that use materials from the waste stream to manufacture their products and that are located in a CalRecycle-designated Recycling Market Development Zone. Business assistance is provided through a partnership between local Zone Administrators and CalRecycle. Local government incentives may include special variances in building codes and zoning laws, streamlined local permit processes, reduced taxes and licensing, and consistent secondary material feedstock supply.

This Zone has adequately addressed all requirements by submitting the information noted below:

Chico/Northern Butte RMDZ Expansion	YE	N	N/
Expansion Application	X		
CEQA Documentation or Notice of Exemption Provided	X		
Resolution from Lead Agency	X		
Resolutions from Participating Agencies, if applicable	X		

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CalRecycle is a Responsible Agency with respect to redesignation of RMDZs (the Project).

The Chico/Northern Butte RMDZ prepared a Notice of Exception (NOE) (the Environmental Document) in connection with its approval of the project.

In this case, the Zone applicant selected a member to serve as Lead Agency and prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) (Environmental Documents) in connection with its approval of the each Project.

The Department has examined and determined that each of the Environmental Documents were adequate for our purposes and has considered the potential

environmental effects of the individual Projects as described in the Environmental Documents prepared by the each Lead Agency. Staff recommends that the Department find that these Projects will not have any adverse environmental effects that are subject to mitigation or avoidance under the jurisdiction of the Department.

The administrative record for CalRecycle's decision to accept the local Environmental Documents includes the administrative record before the Lead Agency, the proposed Project together with all of the components and supporting documentation, this staff report, the Environmental Documents adopted by the Lead Agency, and all other documents and materials utilized by the Department in reaching its decision to approve the proposed Projects. The custodian of the Department's administrative record is Ryan Egli Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025. The Department will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse following Department approval of the Project.